

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 05744 051622Z

63

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 FBO-02 A-01 /017 W

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R 051430Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3774

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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ABIDJAN FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: LOCAL GUARD PROGRAM

REF: SECSTATE 179487

1. POST AGREES THAT PREVIOUS GUARD PROGRAM WAS LESS THAN SATISFACTORY AND FOR THIS REASON CHANGED METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM EFFECTIVE 7/1/76. AT PRESENT, PERSONNEL ARE AUTHORIZED TO EMPLOY GUARDS AND CLAIM REIMBURSEMENT FOR SECURITY SERVICES. POST HOPES THAT EMPLOYING THIS METHOD WILL IMPROVE RAPPORT BETWEEN HOUSEHOLDER AND LOCAL GUARD AND THEREFORE IMPROVE SECURITY ARRANGMENTS.

2. POST HAS STUDIED PROPOSAL TO IMPROVE PHYSICAL SECURITY IN LIEU OF GUARD SERVICES IN THE PAST AND HAS REJECTED THE FORMER BECAUSE OF COST AND UNRELIABILITY OF PHYSICAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS VIS-A-VIS LOCAL CONDITIONS. HOWEVER, SECURITY WATCH COMMITTEE WILL RECONSIDER PROPOSAL AT ITS NEXT MEETING AND ADVISE DEPARTMENT OF RESULTS.

3. PSO WILL PROPOSE AN INTERIM PROGRAM TO CONTINUE EMPLOYING LOCAL GUARDS WITH EMPLOYEES BEING REIMBURSED FOR THE SERVICES. IF THIS PROGRAM DOES NOT PROVE SATISFACTORY WITHIN SIX MONTHS, POST SHOULD DROP THE GUARD PROGRAM THRU A TRANSITION PERIOD WHILE IT IMPROVES PHYSICAL SECURITY FOR RESIDENCES. THIS LATTER, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOWEVER, WILL PROVE EXPENSIVE, AS IT WILL ENTAIL IMPROVING

PERIMETER FENCES, INSTALLING BARS ON WINDOWS, AND ACQUIRING
ALARM SYSTEMS FOR INTERNAL RESIDENTIAL USE. PSO BELIEVES ANY
COST SAVINGS IN LONG RUN WILL PROVE ILLUSORY. LINEHAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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